

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 02158 300949Z

13

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 DODE-00

DRC-01 /072 W

----- 083535

R 300900Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO USMISSION NATO

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9703

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 2158

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO PO PFOR

SUBJ: NEW PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR TO NATO

1. AMBASSADOR JOAO DE FREITAS CRUZ, UNTIL RECENTLY POLITICAL DIRECTOR GOP FOREIGN OFFICE, HAS INDICATED THAT HE IS BEING REASSIGNED TO BRUSSELS AS PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR TO NATO, ETA BRUSSELS END JUNE. FREITAS CRUZ'S DEPARTURE FROM JOB AS POLITICAL DIRECTOR PREMATURE SINCE HE ASSUMED POSITION ONLY LAST OCTOBER (HAVING BEEN PREVIOUSLY AMBASSADOR TO FRG). HIS DEPARTURE PART OF FOREIGN MINISTRY SHAKE-UP FOLLOWING APRIL 25 COUP D'ETAT AND SUBSEQUENT APPOINTMENT SOCIALIST MARIO SOARES AS FOREIGN MINISTER. ALTHOUGH FREITAS CRUZ PROSPERED UNDER PREVIOUS REGIME, HIS RELATIVELY RAPID RISE IN FOREIGN OFFICE PRIMARILY ON MERIT RATHER THAN CONNECTIONS WITH PAST REGIME. THEREFORE, AND ALSO CONSIDERING CONSIDERABLE EMPHASIS NEW REGIME HAS PLACED ON ITS TIES WITH NATO, HIS APPOINTMENT TO NATO POSITION SHOULD NOT BE LOOKED UPON AS DEPARTURE FROM FOREIGN OFFICE IN DISGRACE.

2. EMBASSY LISBON HAS HAD EXTREMELY CLOSE RELATIONS  
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PAGE 02 LISBON 02158 300949Z

WITH FREITAS CRUZ WHO PROVED TO BE ONE OF THE MOST

OPEN AND FRANK FOREIGN OFFICE CONTACTS AVAILABLE TO  
US. HE HAS, FOR INSTANCE, BEEN EXTREMELY USEFUL TO  
US IN PROVIDING FRANK ASSESSMENT OF GOP PAST POSITIONS  
ON AZORES NEGOTIATIONS, ON OCCASION PROVIDING US WITH  
CLUES THAT HARD-LINE GOP POSITIONS WERE NEGOTIABLE.  
WE FEEL USNATO WILL FIND HIM A COOPERATIVE AND  
USEFUL COLLEAGUE.  
SCOTT

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TENURE OF OFFICE, BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, AMBASSADORS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 MAY 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974LISBON02158  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740136-0008  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 02 APR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <02 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <13 JUN 2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NEW PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR TO NATO  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PO, NATO, (DE FREITAS CRUZ, JOAO)  
**To:** NATO  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005